

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus comprising:  
a display unit equipped with a display;  
a main unit equipped with a keyboard having a plurality of operation keys; and

a support unit that supports the display unit on the main unit so that the display unit pivots on a hinge having a hinge pin to open and close the keyboard,

wherein a first function button and a second function button that control an object chosen by a pointer appearing on the display, and a third function button that allows a screen displayed on the display to be scrolled are provided near one end in the axial direction of the hinge pin between the display unit and the keyboard.

2. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first function button and the second function button are arranged around the circumference of the third function button.

3. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a pointing device for moving the pointer appearing on the display in a required direction, the pointing device

being disposed at the other end of the hinge pin between the display unit and the keyboard.

4. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a plurality of cursor keys for moving a cursor appearing on the display in predetermined directions, the cursor keys being disposed at the other end of the hinge pin between the display unit and the keyboard.

5. A method for controlling an information processing apparatus, wherein a first function button, a second function button, and a third function button are disposed near one end in the axial direction of a hinge pin between a display unit and a keyboard in the information processing apparatus, the second function button and the third function button are arranged around the circumference of the first function button, and

wherein the first function button allows a screen displayed on the display unit to be scrolled, and the second function button controls an object chosen by a pointer appearing on the display unit.